

November 22, 2021

VIA E-MAIL

Proteco Landfill Superfund Site Generator Parties Group
c/o Michael Miller
de maximis, inc.
450 Montbrook Lane
Knoxville, TN 37920

**RE: Overview of Observed Livestock and Damage to Fence and Access Control Area
Proteco Landfill Superfund Site, Peñuelas, Puerto Rico**

Dear Mr. Miller:

As requested by the Proteco Landfill Superfund Site Generator Parties Group, Geosyntec Consultants of PR, PC (Geosyntec) is providing documentation of the persistent presence of livestock at the Site, damage to existing barbed-wire fences, and photographs of previous damage to the access barrier at the west access entrance to the Proteco Site. The Photographs documenting these issues are included in **Attachment A**.

On June 23-24, 2021, Geosyntec and *de maximis* conducted a Site visit, during which we observed approximately more than 30 individual animals (cows, calves, bulls, horses and foals) within the Site premises, as well as on several areas of the main access dirt road leading to the Site (Photos 1 to 4). Additionally, Geosyntec and *de maximis* noted damage to the access control barrier post on the west entrance to the Site (Photo No. 5). Additionally, several locations along the west perimeter of the barbed-wire fence appeared to have been cut and which allows the livestock to enter the Site. The damaged post was subsequently repaired by Rightway Environmental on August 18-19, 2021.

On November 3-4, 2021, Geosyntec returned to the Site to conduct oversight of a biological survey for endangered species at the Site. The survey was conducted by Diatom Environmental, LLC (Diatom). Both Geosyntec and Diatom personnel observed several sections of the barbed-wire fence which were broken or cut near the southern perimeter of the Site (Photo No. 6). We also observed numerous cattle trails and encountered several groups of the animals within the north, central and southern areas. More than two dozen cattle and horses were observed by Diatom and Geosyntec. The livestock could not be clearly photographed due to obstructions of dense vegetation. The survey team maintained proper distance from the herds as a safety precaution. The survey team also observed that the corral structures and water troughs previously used to maintain cattle at the Site are still present near the west-central entrance the Site.

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Should you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Geosyntec Consultants of Puerto Rico, PC



Jaime Feliciano, P.G.
Project Coordinator/Project Manager
Senior Geologist



Todd Kafka, P.G.
Senior Principal

Attachment: A – Relevant Site Photographs

ATTACHMENT A
Relevant Site Photographs



Photo 1. Cattle observed at the Site on June 24, 2021 near disposal unit No. 14.



Photo 2. Cattle observed (in the far background) along the access road to the south of the Site on June 24, 2021.



Photo 3. Cattle observed across the main access road, outside and near the south area of the Site on June 24, 2021.



Photo 4. Horse and foal observed at the Site near waste disposal unit No. 6 on June 24, 2021.



Photo 5. Damaged post of the access barrier on west-central area of Site documented on June 24, 2021. Makeshift water troughs and cattle pens are observed in the background.



Photo 6. Section of broken (cut) barbed-wire fence and cattle trail near the south boundary of the Site observed on November 3, 2021. View is northeastward towards the Site.